

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ISLAMA 00666 200648Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03
INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03
SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 DOTE-00 /053 W
-----075209 202138Z /64

R 191136Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5512
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMCONSUL KARACHI
AMCONSUL LAHORE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ISLAMABAD 0666

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID, EFIN, PK
SUBJECT: INDUS HIGHWAY PROJECT REVIVED?

REF: 77 ISLAMABAD 11365

1. THE PAKISTAN TIMES HAD AFRONT PAGE STORY JAN 19 HEAD-
LINED "INDUS HIGHWAY PROJECT MAY NOT BE SHELVED". A
SHORTER VERSION OF THE STORY APPEARED ON THE BACK PAGE
OF THE BUSINESS RECORDER THE SAME DAY. THE PAKISTAN TIMES
ARTICLE STATED THE INDUS HIGHWAY PROJECT "MAY NOT BE
SHELVED IN VIEW OF ITS FAR REACHING ECONOMIC AND STRATEGIC
IMPORTANCE, ACCORDING TO LATEST INDICATIONS HERE". IT
SAID THAT A HIGH LEVEL COMMITTEE HEADED BY GENERAL ZIA
WILL MEET LATER THIS MONTH TO EXAMINE SOME ASPECTS OF
THE PROJECT", AND AFTER THAT MEETING THE "PRECISE
SCHEDULING OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RS. 350 CRORE
PROJECT WILL BE KNOWN".

2. IT WILL BE RECALLED (REFTEL) THAT SECRETARY-GENERAL
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PAGE 02 ISLAMA 00666 200648Z

KAZI OF FINANCE MINISTRY TOLD THE AIDE-TO-PAKISTAN
CONSORTIUM AMBASSADORS ON NOVEMBER 17 THAT IN RESPONSE
TO AID DONOR CRITICISM OF THE INDUS HIGHWAY, PLANS FOR
ITS CONSTRUCTION HAD BEEN INDEFINITELY POSTPONED.

3. REASONS GIVEN IN THE ARTICLE FOR RESURRECTING
PROJECT ARE THAT IT MAY BE DIFFICULT TO FIND ALTERNATIVE

USES FOR THE \$100 MILLION THE SAUDIS HAVE PLEDGED (OF A BUDGETED \$350 MILLION) AND THE RS. \$25 MILLION HAVE ALREADY BEEN SPENT FOR INTIAL WORK.

4. THERE IS CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN PAKISTAN, PARTICULARLY IN THE MILITARY, IN CARRYING ON WITH THIS KARACHI-TO-PESHAWAR HIGHWAY. THIS APPARENTLY OFFICIALLY-INSPIRED REPORT IN THE PAKISTAN TIMES (ESSENTIALLY SUMMARIZED IN THE BUSINESS RECORDER ACCOUNT) MAY BE A TRIAL BALLOON TO SEE IF ANYONE OUTSIDE THE PAKISTAN GOVERNMENT STILL CARES WHETHER OR NOT THE HIGHWAY IS BUILT.
HUMMEL

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HIGHWAYS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978ISLAMA00666
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780031-0628
Format: TEL
From: ISLAMABAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780146/aaaabmoa.tel
Line Count: 75
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: cfeb3be2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 ISLAMABAD 11365
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3749194
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INDUS HIGHWAY PROJECT REVIVED?
TAGS: EAID, EFIN, PK
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/cfeb3be2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
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